IT'S A WILD-CARD NFL WEEKEND

SEAHAWKS QB RUSSELL WILSON LEADS HIS TEAM INTO A CLASH WITH THE REDSKINS IN ONE OF FOUR NFL PLAYOFF GAMES THIS WEEKEND PAGE 18

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Positive economic news keeps rolling in for Regina

Two reports released. Continued emphasis on infrastructure and expansion important, Mayor Fougere says

JEFF MACKEY
jeff.mackey@metronews.ca

Regina's economy is outpacing many of its Canadian counterparts — and two new economic reports released this week indicate that the trend is showing no signs of stopping.

"It was another outstanding year for the city; we are very, very pleased," said Mayor Michael Fougere. "Continued emphasis on infrastructure renewal and expansion is important for us."

The CIBC Canadian Metropolitan Economic Activity Index was released Thursday. The study examines a plethora of economic factors to determine economic growth in Canadian cities.

Last year Regina was ranked eighth highest on the index. This year, the city moved to third, while Saskatoon was ranked fifth.

"We are a model of growth if you compare us to Eastern Canada where they are sluggish in their growth," said Fougere.

"Western Canada — and in particular Saskatchewan — lead the nation in growth, so we are doing something right, that is for sure."

The city's year-end building permit report was also released this week. The study, which calculates the value of commercial and residential permits issued over the last year, showed unprecedented construction activity in Regina.

The city broke its all-time record at $773 million in permits, a 40 per cent increase from the previous year.

Follow Jeff Mackey on Twitter @MetroJeffMackey

Scarth Street in downtown Regina at noon on Thursday. Two new economic reports are showing that the city is continuing to be a model of growth in Canada.
JEFF MACKEY/METRO

Back to school

Classes resume for Sandy Hook students, but at a different building that police say is "the safest school in America" PAGE 7

Secret's out

Jessica Chastain tells Metro why she could never be a CIA agent like her character in the controversial movie Zero Dark Thirty PAGE 12

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Hairdu Records

New record label looks to strengthen Prairie pop

Electronic and pop musicians now have a place to call home on the Prairies thanks to the founder of Hairdu Records, Jason Hattie.

"I had all these friends recording great music and I had so many of my own musical projects that I was working on that it only made sense to bring them all together under one roof," said Hattie.

Hattie said he started the label hoping to give strength to an already dynamic electronic-music scene happening in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

"Being so far removed from a lot of those major music scenes like Toronto, we bring such a different perspective to how and why we create this music. But (the scene) just doesn't always have the means to grow. So we're out to change that and we just happen to all be making electronic music," said Hattie.

Currently, there are 11 artists calling the label home, providing a wide variety of sounds suitable for a broad audience.

"If you want something a little more rock, that's there. Or something a little more pop, that's there too," he said.

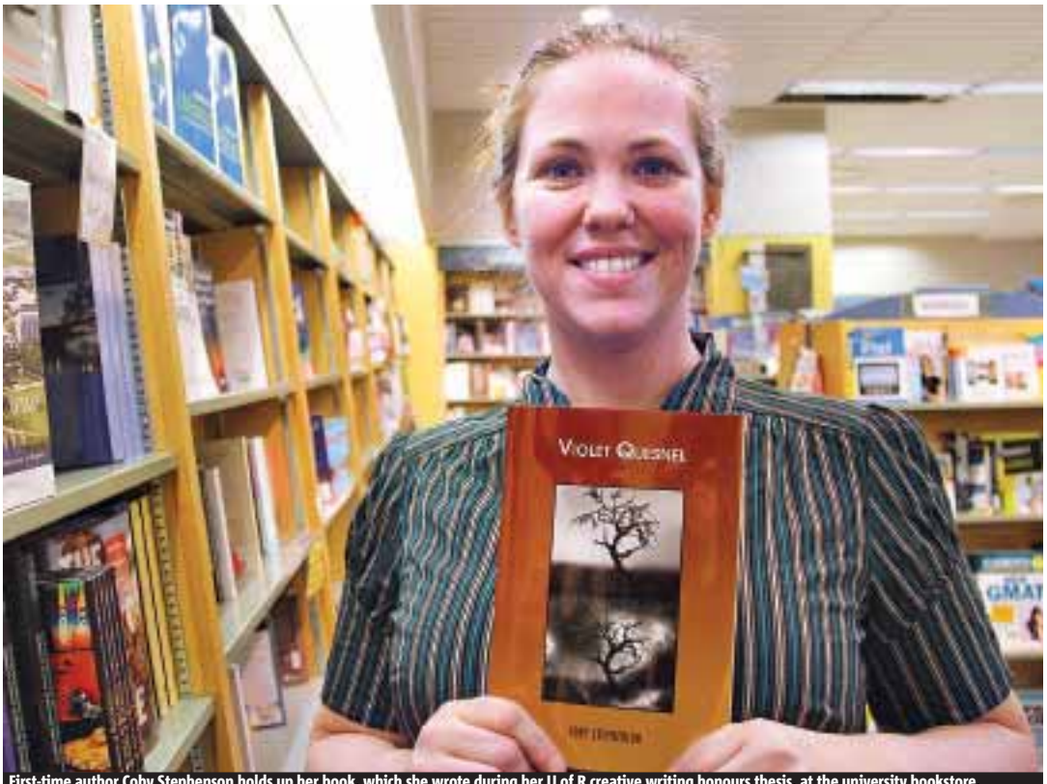
Hattie, who is also a member of the Saskatoon band 911 Turbo, said he has plans to grow the label to areas outside of the Prairies but wants to do it slowly.

Hairdu Records officially launched on Jan. 2 along with their website and will be marking their official launch with a mix tape available Jan. 15.

You can find more information at HairduRecords.com.

JANE CAULFIELD/METRO

Hairdu Records founder and owner Jason Hattie gets a new hairdo at Déjà Vu Salon on Broadway. JANE CAULFIELD/METRO



First-time author Coby Stephenson holds up her book, which she wrote during her U of R creative writing honours thesis, at the university bookstore.
ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

First-time authors publishing in Sask.

Turning a New Leaf. University of Regina creative writing program producing local writers who are staying put

Quoted

"You don't make a lot of money in the publishing world unless you're prolific like Stephen King or Margaret Atwood ... It's more about the love of the art and getting the stories out there."

Coby Stephenson, author and University of Regina graduate

ALYSSA MCDONALD
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First-time authors in Saskatchewan are finding it's worth the time, and sometimes the money, to get their writing published.

University of Regina graduate Coby Stephenson was able to publish the book of short stories she wrote for her creative-writing honours thesis after it was chosen for the Thistledown Press' New Leaf series. The series consists of four different books by first-time authors, focusing on Saskatchewan talent.

"I mean, just because a publisher accepted my manuscript doesn't mean people are going to buy the book. I have been blessed because people have, but even if it affects one person, it's worth it," Stephenson said about her book, called Violet Quesnel, which revolves around a bi-polar protagonist.

Stephenson began developing her short stories in 2006, submitted her manuscript to Saskatoon's Thistledown Press in 2009 and 500 copies of the book were released in October. She says getting her book published was like "winning the lottery."

Even though Stephenson did not self-publish out-of-pocket, she understands the struggles that many new authors face to get published.

Several other authors from the U of R creative-writing program have also been published, including Saskatchewan Book of Everything author Kelly-Anne Riess. After an author is published, it opens the door to different literary awards and grants to continue their craft.

Regina police stopped more than 1,100 drivers this December and gave out 135 impaired-driving tickets. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Holidays. Cops crack down on impaired drivers

Out of all the vehicles stopped by city police this holiday season, more than 10 per cent of drivers were given tickets for impaired-driving infractions.

During the month of December, Regina Police Service say they pulled over 1,104 vehicles, giving out 103 impaired-driving charges and 32 suspensions. One-day suspensions are given out to impaired drivers who exceed 0.04 blood alcohol level but not the 0.08 legal limit.

Police say the statistics are higher than last year because there was more enforcement to catch impaired drivers, including rolling check stops. All together, they wrote 1,005 traffic-infraction tickets and seized 196 vehicles.

ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Massive flash mob fuels driving force of Idle No More

Saskatoon. Supporters from across the province show their support for Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence

MORGAN MODJESKI
Metro in Saskatoon

Idle No More protests continue to sweep the province as organizers reported that a round dance flash mob brought roughly 1,800 people to The Centre Mall in Saskatoon on Thursday night.

Like many of the Idle No More protests that are happening across the country, the flash mob at The Centre Mall on 8th Street took aim at the federal government's omnibus Bill C-45, which was passed in the Senate on Dec. 14.

Supporters say they are upset about the effects of the Harper government's policies on native communities and they want First Nations to be recognized as sovereign stakeholders in decisions affecting Canada's land and resources.

Jamie Martell, one of the organizers of Thursday's event, said the demonstration is also in support of Chief Theresa Spence of the Attawapiskat First Nation, who has been on a hunger strike for more than three weeks in an attempt to get a meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen. David Johnston.

"It's great to see that so many people are starting to open their eyes and they're wanting to protect the land the government is trying to take away," Martell said, adding that the protests are also aimed at future generations of First Nations.

"We hope that the youth get more involved so they know what's going on. We're trying to educate them," he said. "The more and more they hear about it, the more and more they start speaking openly."

Although most of the flash mob participants were from Saskatoon, Martell said supporters from across the province took part in the demonstration.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

A masked child joins hundreds of people who showed up at an Idle No More flash mob round dance and march at The Centre Mall in Saskatoon. Organizers say roughly 1,800 people took part in the rally on Thursday evening. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO IN SASKATOON

Treecycling program gives evergreens a second life

Dave and Jocelyn Norminton drop off their Christmas tree at a depot on Thursday. The two said they miss the city's door-to-door pickup program. JEFF MACKEY/METRO

While the city's new recycling program may not start until July, another recycling enterprise — one of the festive variety — is underway in Regina.

The Treecycling program is in its third year of operation and the city is happy with the way residents have taken to the program since it was implemented.

"It is very busy for us this time of year," said Audra Isaac, a waste-minimization specialist with the city of Regina. "About 2,600 to 3,000 trees get recycled each year."

Before the program started, trees were collected door-to-door and tossed into rear-loader trucks, driven to the landfill and forgotten.

Now residents drop off their trees free of charge at five collection depots across the city. The trees are then given a second life.

"We mulch them up and then recycle them by using the mulch throughout the city at different kinds of parks and different landscaping projects," Isaac said.

The evergreens are turned into a product similar to wood chips, which are valuable in a city with as much green space as Regina.

"We chip them up and put them around trees and such and they hold moisture really well and they are really good for the environment," Isaac said.

The city's collection depots opened their doors on Dec. 28 and will be open until Feb. 1. They can be found at Optimist Arena, the Sandra Schmirler Leisure Centre, Joanne Goulet Golf Course, the City of Regina Container Shop (500 Arcola Ave.) and the landfill.

JEFF MACKEY/METRO

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$17.5M drug bust

Crown appealing sentences for B.C. drug traffickers

Crown prosecutors are seeking longer sentences for two B.C. men who pleaded guilty in Saskatchewan to being part of an international drug-smuggling ring.

A Court of Queen's Bench judge in Swift Current sentenced Brock Palfrey, 25, of Vernon, to nearly 17 years behind bars when time served is factored in. Co-accused Troy Swanson, 26, of Coldstream, was given less than 11 years for the 2011 bust, described as the largest in Saskatchewan history.

A date for the sentence appeals has not been set.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKIZ

Logo in use since 1977

New year, new logo for provincial government

The famed wheat sheaf logo of the Saskatchewan government has quietly been replaced on news releases with a logo featuring two golden lines swooshing over a green provincial background.

A media-relations officer said in an email to The Canadian Press that there has been "a refresh of the government's visual ID" on media releases.

There was a public outcry in 2007 when the newly-elected Saskatchewan Party government tried to ditch the wheat-sheaf logo. The government had to backtrack on plans for the change.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Rape and murder charges laid against accused in gang rape

Global outrage. Protesters gather in New Delhi and around the world to push for stricter laws against sexual assaults in India

Savita Verma, a mother from Brampton, wipes a tear as she joins a protest outside the Indian Consulate in Toronto on Thursday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Five men accused of raping a university student for hours on a bus as it drove through India's capital were charged Thursday with murder, rape and other crimes that could bring them the death penalty.

The attack on the 23-year-old woman, who died of severe internal injuries over the weekend, provoked a fierce debate across India about the routine mistreatment of females and triggered daily protests demanding action.

There have been signs of change since the attack. Rapes, often ignored, have become front-page news, politicians have called for tougher laws, including the death penalty and chemical castration for rapists, and the government is examining wide-scale reforms in the criminal justice system's handling of sexual assaults. Activists say the tragedy could mark a turning point for women's rights.

In a nation where court cases often linger for years, the government set up a special fast-track court Wednesday to deal with crimes against women, and that is where the charges against the five men were filed Thursday evening. The government said it planned to open four more of those courts in the city.

Prosecutor Rajiv Mohan filed a case of rape, tampering with evidence, kidnapping, murder and other charges against the men. The charge sheet was not released and he asked for a closed trial. A hearing was set for Saturday.

The men charged were Ram Singh, the bus driver; his brother Mukesh Singh, who cleans buses for the same company; Pavan Gupta, a fruit vendor; Akshay Singh, a bus washer; and Vinay Sharma, a fitness trainer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Backwards justice

Many cases in India never get to court because of intense social pressure against families reporting sexual assaults, which are often blamed on the victims.

- When women do report rapes, police often refuse to file charges and pressure the victims to reach a compromise with their attackers.
- The 23-year-old was attacked Dec. 16 after boarding a bus with a male companion after watching an evening showing of the movie Life of Pi at a mall.

Hunger striker wants action within 72 hours

Efforts to broker a solution to end a 24-day-old hunger strike by Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence have foundered.

First Nations leaders had initially proposed a Jan. 24 meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Gov. Gen. David Johnston, and took their proposal to Spence's teepee on Thursday afternoon.

But Spence told the aboriginal leaders Thursday that her failing health means she can't wait that long for assurances that her concerns about treaty rights will be addressed.

"She remains committed, she remains strong and she remains steadfast in what she is setting out to do," said Stan Louttit, grand chief of the Mushkegowuk Council, which includes the Attawapiskat First Nation.

"She is determined that a meeting with the prime minister is paramount and of utmost importance immediately."

Spence has been subsisting mainly on fish broth since Dec. 11, huddling in a tent on Victoria Island on the Ottawa River, just beyond Parliament Hill.

Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence, right, is in her fourth week of a hunger strike calling on Prime Minister Stephen Harper to meet and discuss First Nations issues. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spence has no problem with First Nations leaders meeting with Harper in a few weeks time, Louttit said, but she wants to be included in a preliminary meeting well before then.

"I think what is required for the life of these individuals here, for the life of the chief, is that there needs to be a meeting with the prime minister soon, within the next two or three days. Her life is on the line," said Louttit.

"From a human perspective and as a leader of this nation, he has a duty — a moral duty as a father and a husband — to listen and be able to meet with Chief Spence so that she can finish what she has set out to do."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Idle No More

"First Nations across this country have been voicing ... frustration with a broken system that does not address long-standing disparities between First Nations and the rest of Canada." Assembly of First Nations Chief Shawn Atleo

First shake. Baby reaching out of womb to grab doctor captured in viral photo

It's a moment Dr. Allan Sawyer will never forget — the newborn he was helping deliver reached out of her mother's womb and grabbed his finger.

Now he has the evidence hanging framed on his office wall, a thank you from the parents and the first viral photograph of 2013.

"It's just one of those miraculous moments," Sawyer's receptionist Tracy told Torstar News Service on Thursday.

Alicia and Randy Atkins delivered the picture on Boxing Day and then posted it on Alicia's company Facebook page, A Classic Pin-Up. Since then, thousands of people around the world have seen and shared it.

Alicia is the photographer in the family, but Randy snapped the picture after Sawyer told him, "Hey, she's grabbed my finger."

"My daughter reached up out of my stomach and grabbed the Doctor's finger and my hubby caught this special moment," Alicia said on the page.

"Truly amazing. I am in awe of this photo."

Since then, "the photo has gone completely viral worldwide, and as you can imagine, we are a little overwhelmed," she said.

The Glendale, Ariz., couple named the baby Nevaeh, which is heaven in reverse.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The first viral photo of 2013 features a newborn girl who reached out and grabbed Dr. Allan Sawyer's finger while he was delivering her. CONTRIBUTED

Unwanted pregnancy

Man who poked holes in condoms loses sexual assault appeal

A Nova Scotia man convicted of sexual assault for trying to trick his girlfriend into becoming pregnant by poking holes in her condoms has lost his appeal.

Craig Jaret Hutchinson of Shelburne County was given an 18-month prison sentence in December 2011 after his judge-only trial heard that he pricked his girlfriend's condoms with a pin in 2006 so she would get pregnant and not break up with him.

The Halifax-area woman became pregnant and had an abortion, but she later suffered an infection of her uterus that was treated with antibiotics.

Hutchinson later filed an appeal, arguing that the Nova Scotia Supreme Court's sentence was harsh and excessive and that the woman voluntarily consented to having sex with him.

But in a 4-1 majority decision, the court said the sentence was not unfit and the trial judge was correct to conclude that the woman did not consent to having unprotected sex.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Switzerland

3 gunned down in village streets

A shooting in southern Switzerland has left three women dead, two men wounded and highlighted the ease of access to firearms in the gun-loving nation.

The suspect, a 33-year-old unemployed man living on disability, opened fire from his apartment and pursued people in the street Wednesday night in the village of Daillon, authorities in the Swiss canton (state) of Valais said Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Utah

Elvis Presley too hot for 2013

A parent upset about Elvis Presley songs in a high-school drama prompted educators to cancel the musical, deeming it too sexual. But the decision was reversed Thursday.

Herriman High School received permission from the copyright owners of All Shook Up to edit the songs and make scene changes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York

Paper needs guns after outing users

A New York state newspaper that created a public outcry when it published the names and addresses of residents with handgun permits is being protected by armed guards.

Journal News last month published online maps with the names and addresses of pistol permit holders in two counties it covers. It sought the public records after the school shooting in nearby Newtown, Conn.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

Teens cuffed for drugging parents

Two California teenagers were arrested after they gave one of the girl's parents milkshakes spiked with prescription sleeping pills so she could use the Internet past her curfew, police said.

The 15-year-old daughter and a 16-year-old friend were taken to Juvenile Hall.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Students attend their first day at Sandy Hook clone

Newtown shooting. School in neighbouring town made to look as close as possible to old school — plus security

Signs welcome more than 400 students to the former Chalk School in Monroe, Conn. JESSICA HILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Classes resumed Thursday for the students of the Newtown, Conn., school where a gunman last month killed 20 children and six adults in the second-largest school shooting in U.S. history.

With their school still being treated as a crime scene, the more than 400 students of Sandy Hook Elementary School attended classes in neighbouring Monroe.

Returning students, teachers and administrators were met by a large police presence outside their new school, an overhauled middle school that had been shuttered for nearly two years. Several officers guarded the entrance and checked IDs of parents dropping off children.

Law-enforcement officers guarding the new school called it "the safest school in America."

Students found the same chairs and desks, when possible. Their classroom walls were painted the same colours and hung with the same pictures. Other details, such as the location of bookshelves and cubby holes, were replicated as much as possible.

The school district said parents who wanted to be close to their children were welcome to visit and stay in classrooms or an auditorium.

Newtown superintendent Janet Robinson said officials would do their best to make the students feel at ease.

"We will be doing a normal day," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Niggling doubt

"It's very hard to turn off the little 'What if?'.... Dec. 14 started out as a normal day, too."

Sarah Caron, 32, parent of two kids scarred by the shooting, upon seeing them go back to school.

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Alberta

Private info given by dating firm

Alberta's privacy commissioner has ordered a speed-dating company to tighten its training after a woman complained her email address was given to a smitten suitor who didn't interest her.

In a seven-page ruling, the commissioner details how the unnamed woman attended a speed-dating event by Fast Life International. A few days later, two emails appeared in her inbox from a man who was there.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Facebook

Canadians to test new feature

Facebook has chosen Canadian users to test a new mobile feature to make free phone calls.

Facebook's new Messenger app for Apple mobile devices enables voice-over-Internet protocol phone calls, which use data instead of eating into the minutes in a mobile plan.

The feature, which allows Facebook users to call each other for free, is being tested in Canada first.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges laid

Wild game sausage theft

Charges have been laid after police say a northern Ontario man was hit in the face and had his package of wild game sausages stolen. Provincial police in Parry Sound say the man picked up the sausages Dec. 30 at a wild game dinner at the local community centre. They say that while walking home the man was followed and attacked by another man and the packaged meat was allegedly stolen during an altercation.

Police say their investigation led them to the home of a third man, who they say was seen wearing blood-stained clothes while cooking a sausage.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shar-Pei hung

Woman sought in dog killing

Police are seeking the operator of an Ontario dog rescue they allege hung her dog in a Toronto shelter after it was removed from her care. Investigators say she fled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Honesty. Ontario man finds and returns lost iPhone via Facebook app

A London, Ont., woman had her lost iPhone returned after a 20-year old Good Samaritan found the phone and posted a message on her own Facebook wall.

"I found your phone ... this morning on my walk downtown, I know how much it sucks to lose your phone, but I just wanted to let you know your phone is safe and it doesn't appear to be damaged :)," said the posting by Londoner Gage de Vries.

The good news story quickly spread among Kellie Renwick's Facebook friends.

As comments and "likes" continued to pile up, Renwick and de Vries were able to eventually meet at de Vries' home so Renwick could retrieve her phone.

Renwick, 22, says she's "pretty notorious for losing phones and whatnot," and she's forever grateful for its return.

The phones sell for as much as $700.

Though she's not completely certain, Renwick figures she left the iPhone on the roof of her car while hurriedly packing for a trip to Toronto.

Fittingly, right after Renwick left the de Vries residence, she expressed her gratitude on — you guessed it — her Facebook wall.

"I wish there were more people like Gage de Vries in the world," she said. "A true Good Samaritan, thank you so much for your kindness and honesty." De Vries was on his way to a youth unemployment office to print off resumes when he found the iPhone.

JOHN MATISZ/METRO IN LONDON

Gage de Vries returns Kellie Renwick's lost iPhone. JOHN MATISZ/METRO IN LONDON

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton slated to return to work next week

American Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, sidelined for almost a month by a string of medical problems, is upbeat and planning to return to work next week, the U.S. State Department said Thursday.

One day after being released from the New York hospital that was treating a blood clot in her head, Clinton was at home resting, but was far from idle. She spent the day engaging with senior staff, reviewing paperwork and calling in to a meeting of her foreign policy advisory board, said her spokeswoman, Victoria Nuland.

"She's looking forward to getting back to the office," Nuland said. "She is very much planning to do so next week." The announcement that Clinton soon would return to her Washington office ended what had been a sombre point of uncertainty: whether the 65-year-old secretary would be able to resume her duties before stepping down at the start of President Barack Obama's second term, as she had long planned to do.

In December she took ill with a stomach virus, then seemed to deteriorate. While at home recuperating, Clinton fainted, fell and struck her head, leading to a concussion.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This undated photo shows a pod of narwhals off Canada's northern coast. KRISTIN LAIDRE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Americans bust alleged tusk smuggling racket

Narwhal tusks. Two U.S. men charged with smuggling and money laundering; American prosecutors allege Canadians involved

A smuggling ring brought narwhal tusks from the Canadian Artic into the United States in a trailer with a secret compartment and then illegally sold them to American buyers, officials said.

Andrew Zarauskas, of New Jersey, and Jay Conrad, of Tennessee, will be arraigned in Bangor, Maine, next week on 29 federal smuggling and money laundering charges each.

For nearly a decade, two Canadians smuggled the whale tusks into Maine and shipped them via FedEx to Zarauskas, Conrad and other unnamed American buyers, according to an indictment.

Narwhals are known as the unicorns of the sea for their spiral, ivory tusks that can grow longer than two metres. The tusks can sell for thousands of dollars each, but it's illegal to import them into the U.S.

The court document doesn't specify how much money was involved, but it says the Canadian sellers received at least 150 payments from tusk buyers.

"The conspiracy we've alleged was over a period of 10 years, so there appears to have been enough of a market to support that length of conduct," said Todd Mikolop, who is prosecuting the case for the environmental crimes section of the Department of Justice.

Narwhals live in Arctic waters and are harvested by Inuit hunters for their meat, skin and tusks, said Calvin Kania, president of Furcanada in British Columbia, which sells tusks to buyers who want them for display purposes or to turn into jewelry.

The tusks range from less than a metre to more than two metres, and typically sell for up to $7,000 each, Kania said. He ships tusks worldwide, but not to countries that prohibit imports, including the U.S., the U.K. and Australia. The indictment filed last month says the two Canadians, whose names are redacted, would buy the tusks from retail stores in northern Canada and use the Internet and email to arrange sales to American buyers.

The Canadians would take the tusks into the U.S. at the Calais, Maine, border crossing in a vehicle modified to conceal them or a trailer with a false bottom.

Two Canadians have been charged in connection with the case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vast market

"The conspiracy we've alleged was over a period of 10 years."

Todd Mikolop, case prosecutor for the environmental crimes section of the U.S. Dept. of Justice

Quest for ivory

American prosecutors allege a smuggling ring took narwhal tusks from the Canadian Arctic into the U.S. in a trailer with a secret compartment.

- They were then illegally sold to American buyers.
- The U.S., the United Kingdom and Australia are among countries that prohibit importing the tusks.
- Two Canadians have been charged in connection with the case. Their names have been blacked out in the U.S. indictment.
- Prosecutors allege the Canadian sellers received at least 150 payments from tusk buyers.
- Canadians would buy the tusks legally from retail stores in northern Canada.

Washington, D.C. Google chief's North Korean visit 'unhelpful,' according to U.S. government

The U.S. government is voicing opposition to a planned North Korea visit by Google's executive chairman.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said Thursday the timing of the visit by Eric Schmidt and former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson is "unhelpful."

People familiar with the plans tell The Associated Press the trip will happen as early as this month.

Last month, North Korea shot a satellite into space on the back of a three-stage rocket in defiance of a UN ban. Washington and others decried it as a covert test of ballistic missile technology and are seeking UN Security Council action against Pyongyang.

Nuland said Schmidt and Richardson were "well aware" of the U.S. government's views. She said they would be travelling as private citizens and carrying no messages from Washington. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Overseas accounts

Swiss bank to pay $57.8M in U.S. tax evasion case

Switzerland's oldest bank became the first foreign bank to plead guilty in the United States to tax charges when it admitted Thursday that it helped U.S. clients hide more than $1.2 billion US from the Internal Revenue Service. Wegelin & Co. had been accused of helping clients conceal large sums in overseas accounts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
101.21¢ (-0.29¢)

TSX
12,470.44 (-70.33)

OIL
$92.92 US (-20¢)

GOLD
$1,674.60 US (-$14.20)

Natural gas: $3.19 US (-4¢)
Dow Jones: 13,391.36 (-21.19)

Mother Nature racks up $65B in insurance payouts for 2012

Disaster toll. Weather events led by Superstorm Sandy cost the industry dear, but total is down from record set during earthquake-ridden 2011

A man walks past a small commercial strip that burned down during Superstorm Sandy in the Rockaways section of New York City on Wednesday. The storm cost insurers $25 billion US in payouts. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Natural disasters cost insurers $65 billion US last year, with the United States accounting for 9/10th of the bill and Superstorm Sandy prompting payouts of $25 billion, a leading insurance company said Thursday.

However, Munich Re AG said that the total insured losses worldwide were down from a record $119 billion in 2011, when devastating earthquakes in Japan and New Zealand cost the industry dear.

The company said total economic costs in 2012 from natural disasters worldwide — including uninsured losses — amounted to $160 billion, compared with the previous year's $400 billion.

Sandy, which battered eastern coastline areas at the end of October, killed at least 125 people in the United States and 71 people in the Caribbean. New York, New Jersey and Connecticut were the hardest-hit U.S. states.

Munich Re estimated insured losses from Sandy at $25 billion and total losses at $50 billion, though it cautioned that the figures are "still subject to considerable uncertainty." That made it the year's most costly disaster — but several other events in the U.S. meant that the country accounted for 90 per cent of insured costs and 67 per cent of overall losses, the company said.

The lengthy drought that seared swathes of the United States last summer produced 2012's second-biggest insurance bill. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vatican stops taking plastic

It's "cash only" now for tourists at the Vatican wanting to pay for museum tickets, souvenirs and other services after Italy's central bank decided to block electronic payments, including credit cards, at the tiny city-state.

Deutsche Bank Italia, which for some 15 years had provided the Vatican with electronic payment services, said Thursday that the Bank of Italy had pulled its authorization after Dec. 31.

The Corriere della Sera newspaper reported that the Italian central bank took the action because the Holy See has not yet fully complied with European Union safeguards against money laundering.

That means Italian banks are not authorized to operate within the Vatican, which is in the process of improving its mechanisms to combat laundering. The Vatican says it is scrambling to solve the problem for thousands of visitors who flock to its very popular Vatican Museums, which include highlights like the Sistine Chapel. The Holy See had no immediate comment on the Bank of Italy's reported reasons.

Tourists in the long lines Thursday that snaked around Vatican City walls were not happy about the inconvenience. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ben Kiniry of Texas gets cash from an ATM machine along the main road leading to the Vatican on Thursday. For now, Vatican tourists can only use cash to pay for tickets and souvenirs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"A lot of tourists don't have cash on them, so they have to get euros and don't know where to get them." Fluger William Hunter, an American tourist in Vatican City

Read metro work every Monday and Wednesday for tips and trends in education and employment.

Only in Metro. News worth sharing.

Under the provisions of *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulations Act, 1997*

Notice is hereby given that Trattoria Italiana Restaurant Corp.
(Name of applicant: individual/corporation, etc)

has applied to the Liquor and Gaming Authority for a Restaurant
(Tavern/Restaurant/Special Use/ Manufacturer)

Permit to sell alcohol in premises known as Trattoria Italiana Restauant
(Name of establishment)

at 1851 Scarth St, Regina, SK of which the following is a correct legal description:
(civic address is street/town)

(Describe accurately the location of the premises including lot, block and plan number and civic/street address)

Lots 9 & 10, 13 & 14 Block 306 Plan No. 101890739, Old No. 33 Ext 0
1851 Scarth St – Unit #5, City of Regina, Sk

Written objections to the granting of the permit may be filed with SLGA not more than two weeks from the date of publication of this notice.

Every person filing a written objection with SLGA shall state their name, address and telephone number in printed form, as well as the grounds for the objection(s). Petitions must name a contact person, state grounds and be legible. Each signatory to the petition and the contact person must provide an address and telephone number. Frivolous, vexatious or competition-based objections within the beverage alcohol industry may not be considered, and may be rejected by the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Licensing Commission, who may refuse to hold a hearing.

Write to:
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Box 5054
Regina Sk S4P 3M3

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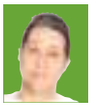
We are proud to introduce one of our members, Carole Vogel!

I was born and raised in rural Saskatchewan, and have since then, lived in Regina, now with my husband and 2 children. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to experience both urban and rural living, and feel that it is a mix of both that have defined who I am. My parents were diligent in instilling strong morals and values, work ethic, and interpersonal skills. I have applied this to my 14 years caring for others in Long Term Care with the Regina Qu'appelle Health Region, and now being a Realtor® with Maxwell Altima Realty. I specialize in Residential Real Estate, and believe success is created one Client at a time. I know how unique, and sometimes complex each person's wants and needs may be, and therefore believe it should be treated as such. I welcome any past or future clients to contact me with any of their Real Estate Needs! Wishing you a very Happy New Year!!!

Carole Vogel Phone: 531-5904 cvogel@maxwellrealty.ca

FORECAST FOR 2013: FERMENTING KIMYE & A JUICED HONEY BOO BOO



THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

I spent my holiday honing my psychic skills. Here are my predictions for the year ahead:

1 **Deja-vu.** This year's top reality show will feature a mother managing the careers of her daughters who, with no discernible talents, eclipse professional entertainers for roles and public attention as they date, marry and divorce rich celebrities. Hey... wait a minute...

2 **And yet....** Kim Kardashian will resist the temptation to repeat previous mistakes and enter hastily into marriage with Kanye West. She will publicly reveal her enlightenment regarding the seriousness of such commitment right before she announces that video cameras will be installed in her uterus to broadcast her pregnancy from within.

3 **Do not pass go.** Lindsay Lohan will go to prison. Not so much a "prediction," but I'm probably not wrong.

4 **Weed warnings.** Legalized marijuana will become a growth-market and be sold, pre-rolled, in packages like cigarettes. Cautionary labels will read: "Song lyrics may seem more profound than they truly are," "Please refrain from making career-altering decisions while under the influence of this product," and "Dude, don't forget the Cheetos."

5 **Here she comes.** Honey Boo Boo child, in a "go-go juice"-rage, will pummel a pageant adversary, and emerge as trailer park queen-for-a-day. Endorsement deals will allow her to set aside funds for the therapy and new set of teeth she will eventually require.

6 **Jersey-jacking.** Former cast-members of Jersey Shore will be kidnapped by terrorists and held hostage. A series of prolonged negotiations will be televised and the perpetrators will end up winning an MTV award.

7 **50 Shades of Stress.** Once the concept of BDSM is acclimatized into public consciousness by the novels of E. L. James, studies will show accelerated hair-loss in fathers with daughters.

8 **Stellar sequels.** Disney will attempt to shake up the decaying Star Wars franchise by producing new chapters with elements that have proven successful for them in the past. In the new version, Luke Skywalker will be played by a mouse with a high-pitched voice, Darth Vader will be a large bulldog, and R2D2 will be played by a member of the George W. Bush administration.

9 **RIM rocks.** The much-anticipated BlackBerry 10 will launch to critical acclaim, causing millions of consumers to say, "Gee, too bad I already bought the iPhone."

10 **Playdate.** Hugh Hefner, 86, and blushing new bride, 26-year-old Crystal Harris, will celebrate their honeymoon by going on a senior's cruise with her grandparents.

11 **Shut the puck up.** Desperate for action after prolonged negotiations, NHL fans will receive gratification when commissioner Gary Bettman is unsuspectingly body-checked by a large hockey mom. Five million hits on YouTube.

Follow The Metro List on Twitter @TheMetroList

Sweet grass: Fast Eddy Aki'a of Hawaii smokes a joint as thousands gathered to collectively light up at 4:20 p.m. on April 20, 2012, in Denver. GETTY IMAGES FILE

A little bit of Mars on Earth

CARL AGEE/UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mars-velous meteorite

Black Beauty rocks science world

Scientists are abuzz about this rock from Mars that landed in the Sahara desert: A yearlong analysis revealed it's quite different from other Martian meteorites.

Not only is it older than most, it also contains more water. The baseball-sized meteorite, estimated to be two billion years old, is strikingly similar to the volcanic rocks examined by the NASA rovers Spirit and Opportunity on the Martian surface. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Triangular treasure

"Here we have a piece of Mars that I can hold in my hands. That's really exciting."

Carl Agee, director of the Institute of Meteoritics and curator at the University of New Mexico, who led the study published online Thursday in the journal Science.

Found in the desert

Rock dated 2nd oldest Mars find

The latest meteorite, known as NWA 7034 and nicknamed "Black Beauty," was donated to the University of New Mexico by an American who bought it from a Moroccan meteorite dealer last year.

Researchers performed a battery of tests on the meteorite and based on its chemical signature confirmed that it was blasted to Earth from Mars. At 2.1 billion years old, it's the second-oldest known Martian meteorite. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rare and ancient

65
About 65 Martian rocks have been recovered on Earth, mostly in Antarctica or the Sahara.

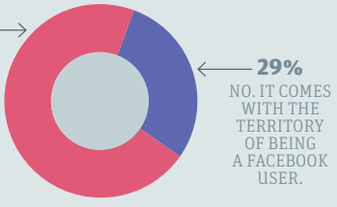
4.5B
The oldest dates back 4.5 billion years to a time when Mars was warmer and wetter.

1.3B
About half a dozen Martian meteorites are 1.3 billion years old and the rest are 600 million years or younger.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Facebook is being accused of changing privacy settings indiscreetly. Do you care?



Twitter

@Alinau87: Trip starts by @kjmatthewson leaving his passport on a shelf in the store at #yqr airport.... Thankfully it was found! #peuf

@dLimacher: Beautiful day in #yqr. If the weather was like this all winter I could live here.

@Guyzer: I'm loving Coach Chamblin's dedication and approach to our @sskroughriders Part-timers need not apply. #CFL #Riders

@desa1986: To buy myself an early birthday present or not to buy myself an early birthday present; that is the question.

@zlatanfazlagic: Dreading going to the swimming pool and encountering hordes of New Year Resolution Enthusiasts. Worst 15 days of the year.

metro
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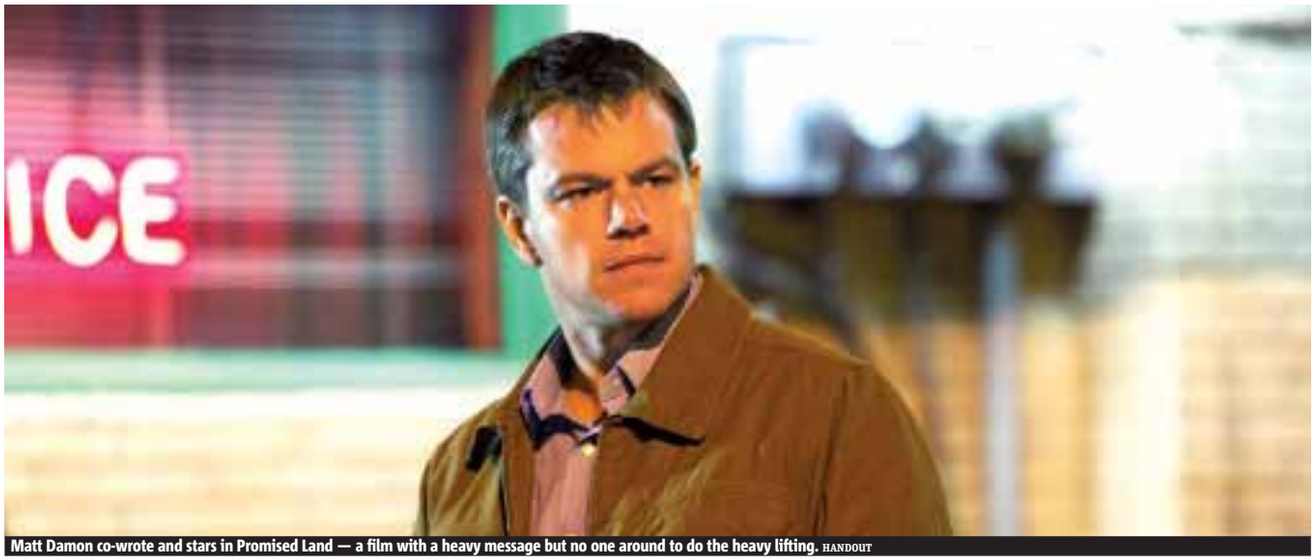

Matt Damon co-wrote and stars in Promised Land — a film with a heavy message but no one around to do the heavy lifting. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Promised Land lost

Sporadic dramatics.
The Reel Guys disagree if this flick walks a good balance of ideals or hits you over the head with its morals

Richard: Mark, Promised Land is one of those message movies you know is going to end with a big speech, so you just hope it's an entertaining ride until the final oration. In this case, I think the movie let its sense of earnestness overpower the entertainment.

It has good, likeable actors in a story that might have been better served in documentary form, rather than the contrived drama presented here.

Mark: Richard, the last thing I would want to watch is a documentary on the effects of gas drilling on farmland communities. The drama may be contrived, but at least it's drama. I liked watching Matt Damon as he slowly realizes his moral complicity in an unsavoury venture. And Frances McDormand was great as his cynical, wisecracking sidekick. Yes, there's a big speech at the end, but you know the rule: when they show a town hall in act one, they're sure going to use it in act three.

RC: I know. And it is just that kind of formulaic filmmaking that kept the joy away for me. Maybe they fell into formula to make people feel comfortable with the amount of info they're being fed. It's hard to make talk of water table pollution dramatic, and while Promised Land makes an attempt by giving much of the heavy lifting to Hal Holbrook, the grand old man of the cast, it's still only as dramatic as a high school science class lecture.

MB: It's a bit more involving than that! The town has to choose between the hard-bitten realism of Damon's character, and the idealism of John Krasinski's interloper. I enjoyed watching the townspeople squirm as they made their choices. It's classic good versus evil, except that it's not. Did you guess the plot twist near the end? It took me by surprise.

RC: I didn't see the plot twist coming ... because it is totally unbelievable! That aside, the movie gets many of the details right — it's set in a town where the general store is called Rob's Guns, Groceries, Guitars and Gas — and its heart is certainly in the right place, but unlike movies like Erin Brockovich, which managed to mix message and medium, Promised Land feels crushed under the weight of its own heavy hand.

MB: Really, Richard, I thought the message was underplayed, especially compared to films like North Country and Silkwood. It's not a great film, even by the standards of bringing an important issue to light, but the performances and texture made it watchable for me.

Synopsis

Matt Damon (who also co-wrote the script with co-star John Krasinski) stars as Steve Butler, a charming salesman sent to a small Pennsylvania farming community to lease land for a giant natural gas company's fracking project. For him, it's a personal crusade; he believes he's transforming the lives of the cash-strapped farmers. For his partner Sue Thomason (Frances McDormand) it's a job that simply keeps her away from her young son. Complicating matters is Dustin Noble (Krasinski), an environmental activist who, as his last name might imply, comes to town to raise the alarm about the real cost of Steve and Sue's business offer.

Star ratings:

- Richard: ●●○○○
- Mark: ●●○○○

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Mission impossible

Zero Dark Thirty. There were lots of whispers about Kathryn Bigelow's film on the bin Laden hunt — and Jessica Chastain struggled with keeping secrets...

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Zero Dark Thirty opens next Friday. HANDOUT

Don't let her impressive work in Zero Dark Thirty fool you. Golden Globe-nominated actress Jessica Chastain would make a horrible CIA agent.

It's something she learned not while filming the real-life drama about the hunt for Osama bin Laden, but instead when the film became one of the most scrutinized projects in recent history — even before a frame had been shot. It got so bad that all cast members would tell the press was that director Kathryn Bigelow had made them sign confidentiality agreements ensuring their silence.

"I am the worst at keeping secrets. I'm the kind of person who, the second that I buy someone a Christmas present, I tell them what I bought them. I don't wait till Christmas. I'm not good at it," Chastain explains.

Luckily, there were those confidentiality agreements. "When I was cast in this, I was so excited about this character of Maya. I found her to be really inspiring and the script was incredible, it was so eye-opening. But I had to keep it a secret," she says. "There was a lot of press coming out and people were speculating that I was (playing) a Navy SEAL wife and all this stuff, and I had to just really hold my tongue for a year. So I'm very excited that people are now seeing the film and they're realizing it's not a propaganda film and it doesn't have an agenda. It just tries to show this moment in history as accurately as possible."

Comedy

The Oranges

Director. Julian Farino

Stars. Leighton Meester, Hugh Laurie

On a perfect street, in a perfect town, live two seemingly perfect families: the Wallings and the Ostroffs. But when the Ostroff's only child, Nina (Meester) and the unhappily married Mr. Walling (Laurie), have an affair—and then quickly and inexplicably announce they're "in love"—everyone's perfect life begins to unravel. The biggest problem with The Oranges — aside from the feeble jokes — is that it is wholly unbelievable and yet, at the same time, completely predictable.

REGAN REID

Documentary

Diana Vreeland: The Eye has to Travel

Director. Lisa Immordino Vreeland

Stars. Diana Vreeland, Anjelica Huston

The late-legendary fashionista that helped popularize both blue jeans and bikinis is the subject of the charming documentary Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel. While filled with energetic anecdotal interviews and archive footage, the slightly scant exploration of her sometimes tyrannical behaviour as editor of Vogue/Harper's Bazaar is curious but given the director is her granddaughter-in-law, the tribute remains satisfying. STEVE GOW

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Josh Brolin. Actor talks Sean Penn and the positives of pugilism

Josh Brolin is an all-business detective in Gangster Squad. HANDOUT

Josh Brolin is making a habit out of going up against Sean Penn on screen as real-life rivals. But for their latest team-up, Gangster Squad, the Milk co-stars switch sides, with Penn's gangster Mickey Cohen pursued by Brolin's boy scout detective John O'Mara in 1949 Los Angeles. In our chat with Brolin, we hit on some of his favourite topics, including the lost art of fisticuffs and the importance of being willing to look like an idiot to be a good actor.

Your John O'Mara is a hard-charging, all-business detective in a fedora with a square jaw. So basically Dick Tracy, right?

That's not a bad thing. I mean, it's funny because I had problems with the dialogue at the beginning when we were first going through the script, and I think the decision between all of us was made to kind of pull some of that dialogue away and make him a little more laconic than he was intended in the beginning, and I think that was right. It was this kind of Clint Eastwood-ian take on the guy that I think was good and let Sean kind of do what Sean was doing, which was bigger, and then Ryan (Gosling) doing what he was doing, which was more ad-libbing.

Is it less fun or less of a draw to be the serious one in the group?

No, because I have so much fun otherwise. I'm humorous (off-camera), so I have a blast anyway. So I have somewhere to go. I don't walk around the set acting like I'm John O'Mara all the time. But you know, it's like I just finished Old Boy, which has a ton of humour in it. It has many, many, many colours. But yes, to answer your question, yeah a little bit.

You've got an impressive fist fight with Sean Penn in this film for which no stunt men were used.

That was a good fist fight. I felt really good about that. I mean, I like fist-fighting anyway. I just like the concept of fist-fighting, I just think it's a lost art. I was talking to my dad about this, and I was like, I wonder if there was less violence — less extreme violence — back when people could fist-fight and actually it would be OK, as opposed to you touch me and I touch you and we sue each other.

NED EHRBAR/MWN

Gosling turns his rash rage on the bad guys

Gangster Squad. Actor's itchy wool costume gave him the hate he needed to get tough on a gaggle of criminals

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Gangster Squad opens next Friday. HANDOUT

Ryan Gosling's character in Gangster Squad is a smooth-talking charmer who's quick with a joke.

So, not really much of a stretch for the actor. In fact, it's tough to get anything like a straight answer out of him. For instance, when asked what was challenging about taking on 1940s L.A. cop Jerry Wooters, Gosling offers, "it was challenging for me when I realized that I was not going to get a Tommy gun. I thought for sure I would have one. Instead, I got a little, tiny lady gun. (Co-star) Josh (Brolin) kind of hogged the Tommy gun. So, that was difficult for me."

And what about the high-pitched voice he used for Wooters? Did that come from his research into the man himself? Not exactly.

"That was more of a wardrobe issue," Gosling offers. And speaking of his wardrobe: "The wool was quite itchy, so I had a rash," he says. "I channelled that irritation into my hatred for the gangsters."

It might not be surprising to learn, then, that one of Gosling's main sources of inspiration for his performance was one of the era's most entertaining characters. "I always kind of admired how Bugs Bunny was not above dressing like a lady in order to get out of trouble," he says.

"I thought that that could be interesting in this in some way, this person trying to make themselves inconspicuous. That was in my head. But I also was trying to relate that as well to the idea that this is a real person. I think it's important to note that the man himself was a much braver, more admirable character than the version of him that I play in the film."

Gosling the debt collector

Gangster Squad marks the second time Ryan Gosling has gotten to show off his on-screen chemistry with Emma Stone — they first romanced each other in 2011's Crazy Stupid Love. But to hear Gosling tell it, there was a much more practical reason than chemistry to re-team with Stone. "Well, Emma owes me money. The only way I can try and get that back is by doing movies with her. She still owes me that money," he says with a grin, making Stone blush. She asks how much more she owes him, to which he responds, "I'm glad we're finally talking about that. It's a shame we had to come here and do this."

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN.4 TO THURS., JAN. 10. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

Southland Mall
3025 Gordon Rd., 306-585-7442

Flight (14A) Fri-Sun 9 Mon-Thu 8:30
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4-7:10-9:45 Mon-Tue 5:45-8 Wed 1-5:45-8 Thu 5:45-8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:25-8:15 Mon-Thu 6
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 2-5:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:45
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Sun 3:25-6:40-10 Mon-Thu 5:05-8:20
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:50-8:30 Mon-Thu 7:30
Parental Guidance (G) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:20-7:50
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:05-6:30 Mon-Thu 6:10
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:50-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:45-6:55-10:05 Mon-Thu 5:10-8:25
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:45-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Sun 12:50

Galaxy Cinemas Normanview S.C.
420 McCarthy Blvd. N. Unit 26, 306-522-9098

Charlotte's Web (14A) Sat 11
Django Unchained (14A) Fri-Sun 11:35-3:20-6:55-10:40 Mon-Thu 8:30
Gangster Squad (14A) Thu 10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (14A) Fri-Sun 2:30-6:15-9:55 Mon-Thu 9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 3:05-6:45-10:30 Mon-Thu 8 Fri-Sun 12
Jack Reacher (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:35-10:35 Mon-Thu 7:05-10:10
Life of Pi 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-4-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 7:20-10:15
The Metropolitan Opera: Les Troyens Live (STC) Sat 11
Les Misérables (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:10-6:40-10:05 Mon-Wed 7:30 Thu 7:10
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri 11:45-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:45 Sat 11:45-2:20-7:20-9:45 Sun 11:45-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:45 Mon-Wed 7:35-9:55 Thu 7:35
Parental Guidance (G) Fri 11:50-2:25-4:55-7:25-10:10 Sat 12-4:45-7:25-10:10 Sun 11:50-2:25-4:55-7:25-10:10 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:50
Texas Chainsaw 3D (18A) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:20 Mon-Thu 7:50-10:20
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4:05-7:10-10:15 Mon-Thu 7-10:05

Kramer IMAX Theatre
2903 Powerhouse Dr., 306-522-4629

The Dark Knight Rises: The IMAX Experience (PG) Fri-Sun 8:15

This is 40 HANDOUT

No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon
Santa vs. The Snowman (STC) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-7
Sea Rex: Journey to a Prehistoric World 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 1:45-4:15
Paradise Cinema
1011 N. Devonshire Dr., 306-522-7888
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:45-6:45-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:20
Wreck-It Ralph (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-3:50-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30

Golden Mile
3806 Albert St., 306-359-5250

Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Thu 6:50-9:45
Argo (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:45-6:30-9:30
Brave (G) Fri-Wed 1:25-4 Thu 4
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-6:35-9:20
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Thu 1:35-3:50-6:55-9:35
Ice Age: Continental Drift (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-3:50
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:40-9:40
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Wed 6:45-9:25 Thu 1-6:45-9:25
Red Dawn (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4-7-9:50
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:05-7:05-9:55

Regina Public Library Film Theatre
23 11 12th Ave., 306-777-6104

Barbara (PG) Thu 7
Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel (G) Fri 7 Sat 9 Sun 7
Gregory Crewdson: Brief Encounters (STC) Thu 9
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
The Oranges (PG) Fri 9 Sat 7 Sun 9
Wednesday Plus (STC) Wed 7

Justin Bieber ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Celebs call for tougher paparazzi rules in wake of photographer's death

The 29-year-old photographer had just snapped shots of Justin Bieber's white Ferrari when he was struck and killed by a passing car — a death that has spurred renewed debate over dangers paparazzi can bring on themselves and the celebrities they chase.

The accident prompted some stars, including the teen heartthrob himself, on Wednesday to renew calls for tougher laws to rein in their pursuers, though previous urgings have been stymied by First Amendment protections.

The Los Angeles County coroner's office confirmed Thursday that the photographer was Christopher James Guerra. Officials did not know his hometown, coroner's Lt. Larry Dietz said.

In a statement, Bieber said his prayers were with the photographer's family. Ironically, the singer wasn't even in the Ferrari on Tuesday.

"Hopefully this tragedy will finally inspire meaningful legislation and whatever other necessary steps to protect the lives and safety of celebrities, police officers, innocent public bystanders and the photographers themselves," Bieber said in a statement released by Island Def Jam Music Group.

Much of Hollywood was abuzz about the death, including Miley Cyrus, who sent several tweets critical of some of the actions of paparazzi and lamenting that the unfortunate accident was "bound to happen."

"Hope this paparazzi/JB accident brings on some changes in '13," Cyrus said via Twitter.

Paparazzi roaming the streets of Southern California have been commonplace for more than a decade as they look to land exclusive shots that can fetch hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Quoted

"Paparazzi are dangerous! Wasn't Princess Di enough of a wake-up call?!"

Miley Cyrus, via Twitter

On Tuesday, a friend of Bieber's was behind the wheel of the Ferrari when a California Highway Patrol officer pulled it over for speeding along Interstate 405, authorities said.

"This photographer evidently had been following the white Ferrari" and when it was pulled over after sundown he stopped, parked and crossed the street to snap photos, Los Angeles police Det. Charles Walton said.

The photographer stood on a low freeway railing to shoot photographs of the traffic stop over a chain-link fence, authorities said.

"The CHP officer told him numerous times that it wasn't safe for him to be there and to return to his vehicle," Walton said.

There were no sidewalks or pedestrian crossings along the street where the photographer had parked, so the driver of the car that struck him had no reason to expect a pedestrian, Walton said of the accident.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Worst celebrity tattoos

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

In honour of the news that Lil' Wayne got "Baked" tattooed above his right eye (aren't you glad he doesn't have a real job? Can you imagine him sitting in front of HR?), The Word is compiling some of the worst celebrity tattoos.

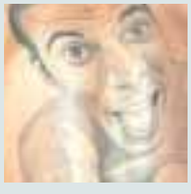
Perhaps the most famous of bad celebrity tattoo decisions was when Angelina Jolie thought getting her then-husband's name in huge letters on her arm was smart. "Billy Bob" is now gone from her arm — and public consciousness.

Megan Fox used to have a huge tattoo of Marilyn Monroe's face on her inner arm, but she wised up and had it removed this year.

Scarlett Johansson got this wrist tattoo last year that has "I Love NY" written inside the "charm." At this point in her career, can't she get a bracelet that's removable?

Kelly Osbourne has skull and crossbones, complete with pink bows, on her feet. Next time she critiques someone else's choices on Fashion Police, remember this.

Hayden Panettiere's side tattoo "Vivere senza rimipianti" should read "to live without regrets" in Italian. Sadly, the Italian word for "regrets" is "rimpianti" meaning her tat is misspelled. So, yeah, about that whole "living without regrets" thing...



Steve-o's back features a giant tattoo of his face giving a thumb's up which ... nevermind, that's pretty awesome.

Lindsay Lohan's "shhhh" finger tattoo isn't really working for her, is it?

Ke$ha

Ke$ha opens up about dating men ... and women

Ke$ha tells the latest issue of Seventeen that she doesn't look at the sex of a person she wants to date, she looks at the whole person. "I don't love just men. I love people. It's not about a gender. It's just about the spirit that exudes from that other person you're with," she says. She also recounts how she uses setbacks she experienced earlier in her life to motivate herself. "I remember every person who told me I couldn't do something or that I was ugly or too fat. I have a 's— list' — people from my past who have been soulless and judgmental."

Kim Zolciak

Reality star shows off post-pregnancy body after baby No. 2

Just four months after giving birth to son Kash, her second baby in 15 months, reality star Kim Zolciak shows off her post-baby body in the new issue of Life & Style. "I've lost 30 pounds," says the Real Housewives of Atlanta star. "I'm only five to eight pounds above my weight before I got pregnant. I think breast-feeding helped me lose some weight, and I was really busy as soon as I got home with Kash."

Twitter

@ChrisColfer
Happy New Year everyone! Hope 2013 is everything you want it to be! Unless you're a Mayan enthusiast, then my condolences.

@azizansari
RAMP UP 2013 RIGHT NOW, THROW ON MARK MORRISON'S RETURN OF THE MACK RIGHT NOW

@ConanO'Brien
To ring in the New Year, I'm heading to D.C. to watch Congress drop the ball. #whatdoyoumeanimthe5000000thpersontomakethisjoke?

@KatieCouric
In 2013 I am going to try to declutter my life. Floss more. Write more handwritten thank you notes. What about you??

Give the beef a break and reach for bison

Seared Bison with Sage and Gnocchi.

Red meat alternative is gaining popularity

Now is the perfect time to venture down the culinary path with bison, an alternative red meat that is showing up at more and more grocers.

So let's start with the name. The critter you know as the American buffalo really isn't one at all. Turns out the American buffalo (technically a bison) is more closely related to your run-of-the-mill cow.

Bison meat (which is raised without hormones or antibiotics) can be incredibly tender and flavourful, with a sweet, rich beefy flavour.

It also happens to be amazingly lean, packing fewer calories and less fat than beef and even skinless chicken.

That low-fat profile comes with a price, however. Like any lean meat, bison has a tendency to cook quickly, so quickly that it's easy to overcook it. And that is why bison has a reputation for being tough. It isn't. If you have bison that is tough, that just means it was overcooked.

You can use bison much as you would beef. The trick is to modify the cooking method (rather than the flavours or other ingredients) to account for the leanness. Here, it's used with Italian potato gnocchi.

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 1 lb package gnocchi pasta
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Pinch red pepper flakes
- 1 1/2 lbs bison steak, thinly sliced across the grain
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh sage
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and ground black pepper

1. Bring a large saucepan of salted water to a boil. Add the gnocchi and cook according to package directions. Reserve 1/4 cup of the cooking water, then drain the gnocchi and set aside.

2. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the garlic and red pepper flakes, then sauté the garlic for 30 seconds.

3. Add the steak and sear on each side for about 1 minute. Don't crowd the pan or the steak will steam rather than sear. If needed, work in batches.

4. Once the steak is seared, add the sage and cooked gnocchi. Cook for 30 seconds, then add the Parmesan. Drizzle in just enough of the reserved cooking water to form a sauce with the melted cheese. Toss, then season with salt and pepper. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Liquid Assets

2013 booze resolutions

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Well here we are, 2013. Over the holidays, I had more than a few glasses of wine in hopes of finding some inspiration for an appropriate life changing 2013. Unfortunately, all I could come up with were some boozy alternative resolutions to losing weight and managing money better for you, dear readers.

Drink local: There are independent wineries, distilleries and breweries filling bottles with unique liquids in your province. Find, buy and drink.

Get social: Share what you're drinking with your old high school mates and ex-significant others on Twitter or Facebook. Words not your thing? Post a picture. It will last longer.

Channel your inner food fetish: Pick a recipe, any recipe, find a beverage that works with it (just email me, I'll tell ya) and put both in your mouth.

Return to the white side: Reds have been the darling of vinophiles for long enough. In 2013, rediscover the subtle sophistication of something white. Try starting with Fazi Battaglia's 2011 Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico ($10.99 to $14.99) – an aromatic, green-fruited Italian with a refreshingly acidic zing. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Going wild for pasta

Wild boar has an assertive flavour, somewhere between pork and venison. The basic guideline: Use it in boldly flavoured dishes just as you would pork and venison. The point isn't to mask the flavour, but to pair it with ingredients that don't get smothered by it.

Where to begin? Try it in this ragu over fettuccine.

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 large carrot, grated
- 1 stalk celery, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 lbs ground wild boar
- 1 cup red wine
- 15-oz can tomato sauce
- 6-oz can tomato paste
- 1 lb fettuccine pasta
- 2 tbsp chopped basil
- 1 tbsp fresh oregano
- Salt and ground black pepper
- Grated Parmesan cheese, for serving

1. In saucepan over medium-high, heat olive oil. Add onion, carrot, celery and garlic. Sauté 6 mins., or until onion is translucent.

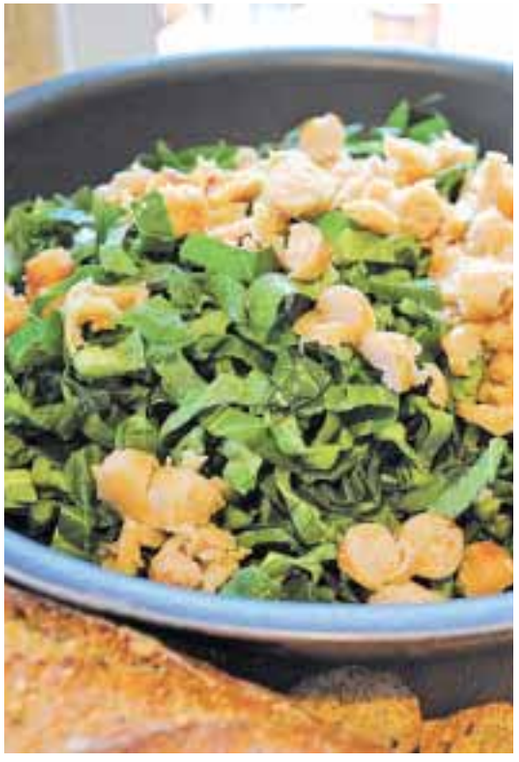
2. Add boar and cook until browned, 10 mins. Add wine and cook, scraping pan, until wine has mostly evaporated. Add tomato sauce and paste. Bring to simmer; cook 10 mins.

This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3. Bring saucepan of salted water to boil. Add fettuccine; cook according to package.

4. When pasta is done, stir 1/4 cup of its cooking water into sauce. Drain pasta and transfer to serving bowl. Stir basil and oregano into ragu, then season with salt and pepper. Ladle over pasta. Top with Parmesan cheese. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Collard Greens with Sausage



Collard Greens are cheap and yet are one of the most popular vegetables. What a combo!

Many, though, don't know how to cook them. In the Southern U.S. they simmer them low and slow. Brazilians sliver them into thin strips and do a quick sauté. Our method is somewhere in the middle to save you time and keep the leaves al dente.

This flexitarian meal can be completely vegan or sausaged to the nines to suit your group. Keep toppings separate and serve as a main course with a crusty loaf of bread and some nice hummus or sharp cheese.

1. Rinse greens and chop off stems. Discard. Roll leaves width wise in stacks of 4 or 5 leaves. Slice thinly across the leaf (chiffonade) to create ribbons that are about ¼ inch thick or less. Place into a large pot with a lid containing ¼ cup of water. Bring to a boil, then turn down to simmer over medium-high heat to cook down for 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in butter, honey, salt and white pepper. Simmer further for 15 minutes.

2. Place toppings in bowls on the table and serve with warm bread.

3. Enjoy!

THERESA ALBERT

Ingredients

Serving Size: 8, prep time: 10 minutes

- 2 bunches collard greens — about 10 cups chopped
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 tbsp butter
- 1 tbsp honey
- 1 teaspoon salt (or less to taste)
- 1 teaspoon white pepper

Toppings

- 2 cups cooked breakfast sausage, cooked bacon or canned white beans that have been warmed

Sushi for dummies. Add salmon, chicken or pork for extra taste

Ingredients

Serves 4, Prep Time: 5 min

- 2 Cups, cooked, short grain rice (or any other leftover rice)
- 2-3 tbsp rice vinegar
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 cup sliced cucumber
- 1/2 cup carrot, grated or shaved
- 1/2 cup diced red pepper
- 2 sheets toasted nori, ripped or cut into pieces
- 1/2 avocado

1. Place rice on individual plates or bowls.

2. Season with vinegar and soy sauce — stir with a fork (so rice doesn't clump together).

3. Top with remaining ingredients.

THERESA ALBERT

Theresa Albert is a food communications consultant and nutritionist in Toronto. She is @theresaalbert on twitter.

Christmas Tree Depot
December 28 - February 1
Treecycle
• Remove tree from bag or wrap
• Remove any decorations or other materials from tree
• Your tree will be turned into useful landscaping material
Locations:
City of Regina Landfill
Sandra Schmirler Leisure Centre — 3130 East Woodhams Drive
Optimist Arena — 222 Sunset Drive
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CFL

Schedule conflict causes Dickenson to leave Riders

The Saskatchewan Roughriders are in the market for a new special-teams co-ordinator.

The vacancy on head coach Corey Chamblin's staff was created by the resignation of Craig Dickenson on Thursday.

"My decision to resign is based on off-season commitments I have made that I intend to honour and also to a conflict of schedule which could not be worked out," Dickenson said in a statement. "I appreciate the effort and work of the players and coaches I had the privilege of working with during my two years in Regina."

Dickenson joined the Riders in 2011 after spending the previous season with the NFL's Oakland Raiders as a special-teams assistant. He also spent time as a coach with the Calgary Stampeders and Montreal Alouettes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Knicks surge past Spurs in fourth

Carmelo Anthony scored 23 points, J.R. Smith added 20 and the New York Knicks snapped the San Antonio Spurs' seven-game winning streak with a 100-83 victory Thursday night.

Steve Novak added 15 points and Tyson Chandler had 10 points and 14 rebounds to help the Knicks bounce back from consecutive losses by dominating the final period against the Spurs, who may have run out of gas in their second game in two nights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An inglorious end to Canada's gold hopes

World juniors. Talent-laden Canadians' title drought extended to four years in Russia

Canadian captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, right, hangs his head with teammates after being defeated 5-1 by Team USA on Thursday in Ufa, Russia. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

An NHL lockout has helped lift Canada to gold at past world junior hockey championships.

But not this time.

Canada dominated en route to gold in 1995 and 2005 when the NHL also locked out its players.

Another labour stoppage this year meant coach Steve Spott had most of the country's top 19-year-old talent available to him.

But bronze is the best this Canadian team can do after a 5-1 loss to the United States in Thursday's semifinal.

The Americans and defending champion Sweden will play for gold, while Canada takes on the hosts for bronze Saturday in Ufa, Russia. The Swedes edged Russia 3-2 in a shootout in the other semifinal.

Canada must find solace in extending its run of medals in this tournament to 15 consecutive years.

"We've got to come home with a medal," captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins said. "It's not the one we want to come home with, but we've got to do it for our country."

Canada beat the U.S. and Russia en route to finishing first in Pool B at 4-0 to earn a bye to the semifinal. But for the second straight year, Canada failed to parlay the bye into a berth in the gold-medal game.

"For it to happen again, it's pretty heartbreaking," said second-year forward Mark Scheifele.

The International Ice Hockey Federation is doing away with the bye starting in 2014, so the tournament will feature four quarter-finals instead of two.

So while the Americans flexed their scoring muscles in a 7-0 win over the Czech Republic in Wednesday's quarter-final, the Canadians vowed after practice the same day they couldn't have a slow start Thursday.

But they went out and did just that. The firepower that Canada purportedly had up front did not fire.

Scheifele, Jonathan Huberdeau and Ryan Strome would probably have joined Nugent-Hopkins in the NHL this season if not for the lockout. All four were held off the scoresheet.

When Spott chose his 23 players at selection camp in Calgary last month, he said he did so with speed in mind. It was the Americans who made Canada look like they were standing still for two periods Thursday.

Led by Calgary Flames prospect John Gaudreau and captain Jake McCabe, the U.S. beat Canada to the puck at both ends of the ice for 40 minutes to build a 4-0 lead.

Unlike last year's 6-5 semi-final loss to Russia in Calgary, where Canada scored four third-period goals, this Canadian team didn't rally to make it close. THE CANADIAN PRESS

What to watch for on Saturday

A glance at Saturday's bronze-medal game between Canada and Russia (3 a.m., TSN):

- **Ryan Nugent-Hopkins** — Held off the scoresheet in semifinal loss, Canada's captain needs to create scoring chances on top line.
- **Jonathan Drouin** — A chance for 17-year-old forward to further raise his stock for the NHL draft.
- **Nikita Kucherov** — Forward for the QMJHL's Rouyn-Noranda Huskies leads Russians in scoring.
- **Nail Yakupov** — Has been guilty of trying to do too much on his own. Time to start distributing the puck.

By the numbers

3

Playing a quarter-final doesn't seem to be an impediment to world-junior gold. Three of the last five champions played a quarter-final.

NHLPA starts 'disclaimer' process over again

NHLPA special counsel Steve Fehr GETTY IMAGES FILE

Less than a day after letting a self-imposed deadline pass to declare a "disclaimer of interest," NHL players began voting to restore their executive board's authority to dissolve the union.

A 48-hour period for the NHLPA's membership to cast ballots opened at 6 p.m. ET on Thursday, according to a source.

The first vote, held over five days last month, passed overwhelmingly. Should at least two-thirds of players return a positive vote again and the NHLPA decide to notify the league it is disclaiming, it would open the door for players to file antitrust lawsuits.

It was a day that saw much more action away from the bargaining room than in it. The NHLPA also filed its statement of defence with the district court in New York, arguing that the lawsuit filed by the NHL last month should be dismissed because it was brought forward for "strategic reasons."

"The NHL is using this suit in an attempt to force the players to remain in a union," it claimed.

The league had asked the court to rule on the legality of the lockout in a move considered to be a pre-emptive strike to a potential "disclaimer of interest" declaration from the NHLPA.

The sides met in small groups on Thursday — a departure from the large group sessions held in recently. NHLPA special counsel Steve Fehr led a group of players and staff into an early afternoon meeting while an even smaller group returned in the evening to discuss the pension plan.

Both the league and union met independently with U.S. federal mediator Scot Beckenbaugh and were scheduled to gather together with him again on Friday morning.

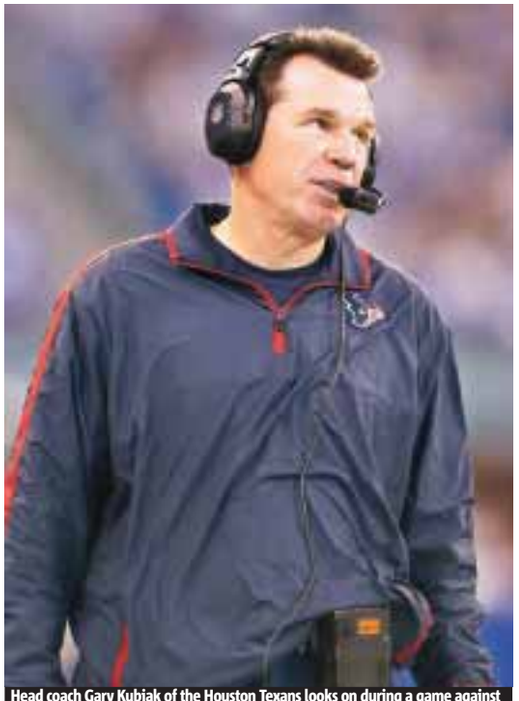
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stuck on the cap

The salary cap range for the 2013-14 season remained a significant hurdle, according to sources.

- The union is seeking a $65-million cap and a $44-million floor while the league has proposed an upper limit of $60 million and a lower limit of $44 million.

Who's afraid of the wild-card round?



Head coach Gary Kubiak of the Houston Texans looks on during a game against the Indianapolis Colts on Dec. 30 in Indianapolis. The Colts defeated the Texans 28-16. Houston lost three of its last four games and must now play in the wild-card round of the NFL playoffs. JOE ROBBINS/GETTY IMAGES

NFL. One of the Super Bowl participants in six of last seven years didn't start the playoffs with a bye week

NFL teams have no fear of playing in the wild-card round.

Recent history shows the playoff bye isn't such a big deal anymore. In six of the last seven years, one of the Super Bowl participants didn't get a bye to begin the post-season. And five of those teams wound up winning the NFL title.

So Green Bay's blowing the bye by losing to Minnesota last Sunday might not be such a setback. Same for Houston, which had an even bigger fall, fumbling away home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs as well as the week off, by losing three of its last four.

Of course, Texans coach Gary Kubiak recognizes the week-to-week nature of pro football, and how things can change quickly in seven days — and last for a month, right to a championship.

"That's life, and that's part of football," Kubiak said. "How'd you play last week? How have you played the last few weeks? What have you done lately? That's our world. We understand that, and it hasn't been good the last few weeks, so hopefully we get it better."

Nobody knows how to achieve that improvement more than the Packers. Two years ago, they barely squeezed into the playoffs, then raced to three road victories and then a title win over Pittsburgh.

"I'd have preferred a week off, to be honest with you," Packers receiver Jordy Nelson said. "But we put ourselves in this situation throughout the whole year. It's not just this last game.

"Whatever it takes, we just have to win from here on out."

That begins Saturday night at Lambeau Field against Minnesota. Had the Packers beaten the Vikings last Sunday, they would be sitting at home this weekend watching the Bears play at San Francisco. Instead, they will trudge onto the tundra to face rushing king Adrian Peterson, who ran around, through and over them for 199 yards to get the Vikings into the playoffs.

The Vikings had no chance for a bye, they never really were in the chase for the NFC North title. They're just glad to be in the tournament, knowing that the Steelers, Colts, Packers and Giants (twice) recently covered the lengthier route to the NFL championship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"The cool thing about the playoffs is that once you get in, anything can happen." **Defensive end Jared Allen and his Minnesota Vikings** just got in the playoffs as the No. 6 seed in the NFC

Hot teams

Some teams already are on winning streaks.

- Denver has won 11 straight to grab the top spot in the AFC.
- Washington takes a seven-game winning streak into Sunday's home game against Seattle, winner of five in a row.

Playoff analysis

Rushing puts teams over the top

As much as the NFL is a passing league, it still helps to be able to run the ball.

In playoff games during the Super Bowl era, teams with a 100-yard rusher are 157-37, a .809 winning percentage, while teams with a 300-yard passer are 57-66, only .463, according to STATS LLC.

The Redskins and Seahawks — who play each other Sunday — and the Vikings are unabashedly putting emphasis on running. That trio of playoff participants had the league's top rushers in Adrian Peterson, Alfred Morris and Marshawn Lynch.

The top three quarterbacks in yards passing, meanwhile, are done for the season: Drew Brees, Matthew Stafford and Tony Romo.

Says Washington's Santana Moss: "When you really want to win games, you have to have both parts of your offence working, the air and the ground."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	22	8	.733	—
New York	21	10	.677	1½
Atlanta	20	10	.667	2
Indiana	19	13	.594	4
Chicago	17	13	.567	5
Milwaukee	16	14	.533	6
Brooklyn	17	15	.531	6
Philadelphia	15	18	.455	8½
Boston	14	17	.452	8½
Toronto	12	20	.375	11
Orlando	12	20	.375	11
Detroit	12	22	.353	12
Charlotte	8	23	.258	14½
Cleveland	7	26	.212	16½
Washington	4	26	.133	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	24	7	.774	½
San Antonio	26	8	.765	—
L.A. Clippers	25	8	.758	½
Memphis	20	9	.690	3½
Golden State	22	10	.688	3
Houston	18	14	.563	7
Denver	18	15	.545	7½
Portland	16	15	.516	8½
Minnesota	14	14	.500	9
Utah	16	17	.485	9½
L.A. Lakers	15	16	.484	9½
Dallas	13	20	.394	12½
Sacramento	12	20	.375	13
Phoenix	12	21	.364	13½
New Orleans	7	25	.219	18

Thursday's results
San Antonio at New York
Minnesota at Denver
Wednesday's results
Toronto 102 Portland 79
Brooklyn 110 Oklahoma City 93
Chicago 96 Orlando 94
Houston 104 New Orleans 92
Golden State 115 L.A. Clippers 94
Indiana 89 Washington 81
Memphis 93 Boston 83
Miami 119 Dallas 109 (OT)
Phoenix 95 Philadelphia 89
Sacramento 97 Cleveland 94
San Antonio 117 Milwaukee 110
Utah 106 Minnesota 84
Friday's games — All Times Eastern
Sacramento at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at Washington, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Boston, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Miami, 8 p.m.
Portland at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Houston at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

LATE WEDNESDAY

RAPTORS 102, TRAILBLAZERS 79

PORTLAND (79)
Batum 4-12 2-2 10, Aldridge 7-12 0-0 14, Hickson 1-4 0-0 2, Lillard 6-13 5-6 18, Matthews 4-7 2-3 12, Freeland 4-6 3-3 11, Claver 1-2 0-1 2, Price 1-2 0-0 2, Babbitt 1-4 1-1 4, Barton 0-1 0-0 0, Pavlovic 1-3 0-0 2, Smith 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 31-70 13-16 79.
TORONTO (102)
Pietrus 0-4 0-0 0, Davis 9-12 1-4 19, Gray 0-0 0-0 0, Calderon 0-1 0-0 0, DeRozan 11-17 1-1 24, Johnson 7-12 3-3 17, Anderson 2-9 0-0 4, Lowry 0-2 0-0 0, Fields 3-4 1-1 7, Ross 8-14 4-6 26, Acy 0-0 2-2 2, Lucas 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 41-77 12-17 102.

Portland	**17**	**22**	**22**	**18 —79**
Toronto	**24**	**31**	**23**	**24—102**

3-Point Goals—Portland 4-22 (Matthews 2-4, Babbitt 1-4, Lillard 1-5, Claver 0-1, Pavlovic 0-2, Batum 0-6), Toronto 8-23 (Ross 6-9, Lucas 1-2, DeRozan 1-3, Calderon 0-1, Anderson 0-2, Lowry 0-2, Pietrus 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Portland 38 (Aldridge 10), Toronto 45 (Johnson, Davis, Fields 7). Assists—Portland 19 (Lillard 7), Toronto 34 (Calderon 13). Total Fouls—Portland 18, Toronto 20. Technicals—Acy. A—18,117 (19,800) at Toronto.

NFL

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

Saturday's games — All Times Eastern
AFC — Cincinnati at Houston, 4:30 p.m.
NFC — Minnesota at Green Bay, 8 p.m.
Sunday's games
AFC — Indianapolis at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
NFC — Seattle at Washington, 4:30 p.m.

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday, Jan. 12
AFC — Baltimore, Indianapolis or Cincinnati at Denver, 4:30 p.m.
NFC — Washington, Seattle or Green Bay at San Francisco, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 13
NFC — Washington, Seattle or Minnesota at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
AFC — Baltimore, Indianapolis or Houston at New England, 4:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday, Jan. 20
AFC and NFC, TBA

IIHF WORLD JUNIORS

CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET

Thursday's results
SEMIFINALS
U.S. 5 **Canada 1**
Sweden 3 Russia 2 (SO)
Wednesday's results
QUARTER-FINALS
U.S. 7 Czech Republic 0
Russia 4 Switzerland 3 (SO)
Friday's game — All Times Eastern
FIFTH PLACE
Czech Republic vs. Switzerland, 8 a.m.
Saturday's games
BRONZE MEDAL GAME
Canada vs. Russia, 4 a.m.
GOLD MEDAL
Sweden vs. U.S., 8 a.m.

RELEGATION BRACKET

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	Pt
Finland	2	2	0	0	0	13	1	6
Slovakia	2	1	1	0	0	7	4	5
Germany	2	0	0	1	1	1	10	1
Latvia	2	0	0	0	2	4	10	0

Thursday's result
Slovakia 5 Latvia 3
Wednesday's result
Finland 8 Germany 0
Friday's games
Latvia vs. Germany, 4 a.m.
Finland vs. Slovakia, 8 a.m.

U.S. 5, CANADA 1

First Period
1. U.S., McCabe 2 (Reilly, Barber) 7:18.
2. U.S., McCabe 3 (Grimaldi, Trochek) 16:02.
Penalties — None.
Second Period
3. U.S., Gaudreau 6 (McCabe, Gibson) 2:58
4. U.S., Vesey 1 (Gaudreau, Miller) 12:44
Penalties — Nugent-Hopkins Cda (slashing) 6:48, Murphy US (tripping) 9:46, Reinhart Cda (high-sticking) 14:20, Camara Cda (high-sticking) 18:54.
Third Period
5. Canada, Rattie 3, 4:03 (sh)
6. U.S., Gaudreau 7 (Vesey, Miller) 5:41
Penalties — Sheifele Cda (kneeing), Sieloff US (handling the puck) 0:48, Canada bench (too many men; served by Ritchie) 2:57, Gaudreau US (high-sticking) 9:55, Camara Cda (high-sticking) 15:56, Danault Cda (kneeing) 18:58, Reinhard Cda (cross-checking) 20:00.
Shots on goal by

U.S.	12	12	16 — 42
Canada	8	10	16 — 34

Goal (shots-saves) — U.S.: Gibson (W, 4-2): Canada: Subban (L,4-1, 16-12), Binnington (12:44 second; 26-25).
Power plays (goals-chances) — U.S.: 0-6; Canada, 0-2.
Attendance — 4,781 (8,250) at Ufa, Russia.

MLB

Former Blue Jays reliever signs with Rangers

Setup reliever Jason Frasor signed a $1.5 million U.S., one-year deal Thursday with the Texas Rangers.

The 35-year-old right-hander spent most of his career with Toronto, setting a Blue Jays franchise record with 505 appearances since his major league debut in 2004.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Italian soccer

Racist chants mar friendly match

A friendly match between AC Milan and lower-division club Pro Patria was abandoned Thursday after Milan's players walked off the pitch because of racist chants, the latest incident of racial abuse blighting the sport in Europe.

After repeated chants directed his way, Ghana midfielder Kevin-Prince Boateng picked up the ball and kicked it at a section of the crowd in the 26th minute of the first half.

Boateng then took off his shirt and walked off with his Milan teammates. Urby Emanuelson, Sulley Muntari and M'Baye Niang were also targeted by the chants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennis. Raonic loses a slug fest in Brisbane

Canadian Milos Raonic made an early exit at the Brisbane International on Thursday, dropping a 6-3, 6-4 decision in his opening match to Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria.

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., conceded just three points on his own first serve in the second-round match-up, but was unable to put pressure on his opponent's first serve. Dimitrov won all 26 of his first-serve points in the 61-minute match.

The second-seeded Raonic is 13th in the world rankings, 35 positions ahead of the Bulgarian. Dimitrov will next play No. 7, Jurgen Melzer of Austria, who posted a 6-4, 7-6 (4) win over David Goffin of Belgium.

Meanwhile, Serena Williams had a tough win over the woman she's predicting will one day top the rankings, setting up a semifinal match against current No. 1 Victoria Azarenka.

The reigning Wimbledon, U.S. Open and Olympic champion showed plenty of emotion on key points in a heavy-hitting duel with Fed Cup teammate Sloane Stephens on Thursday before winning 6-4, 6-3.

Williams converted both break points and fended off one break chance against her in each set, later saying Stephens had the potential to be "the best in the world one day."

The 19-year-old Stephens accepted the warm praise from Williams, her childhood idol.

"To have someone like that, who I think is one of the greatest players to ever play the game, say that about you is really nice," Stephens said. "I lost to the best player in the world today, so, you know, it's good."

Olympic and U.S. Open champion Andy Murray was pushed before winning his opening match 6-1, 5-7, 6-3 against Australian qualifier John Millman, who finished last year ranked No. 228.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milos Raonic plays against Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria on Thursday in Brisbane, Australia. GETTY IMAGES

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
If you have been thinking about taking a trip or arranging your next vacation now is the time to get serious about it. Don't go where other people want you to go – go where you feel most inspired.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
It may feel as if something good is going out of your life, and maybe it is, but something equally good will replace it within a matter of days. Don't worry: Lady Luck is still on your side.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You have only to put a name to your dreams to see them come true. Can it really be that easy? Yes it can. Believe that you deserve the best and you will surely get it over the next few days.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
No doubt you wish you could close your eyes and ears to the chaos and confusion that is taking place around you but you can't, so you might as well get used to it. Maybe you should just get more involved.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You need to feel that you are doing something useful with your talents and today's Mars-Jupiter link will encourage you to reach out into the world and make a difference in some way. You can be a force for change.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will find it surprisingly easy to get your way on the work front today. Colleagues and employers seem to think that you can do no wrong and if you are smart you will make the most of it.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't let anyone tell you that you are aiming too high today. If anything you are still not aiming high enough. Mars and Jupiter combine in such a way now that no challenge is too much for you.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 2 04 - Nov. 22
You will have to make some big decisions over the next 24 hours and the good news is you will make them quickly and decisively. Financially and professionally you can and you must put your own needs first.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Partnership sand relationships are under good stars today, so reach out to friends and family and let them know how much you enjoy their company. A social event of some kind will bring you all closer together.

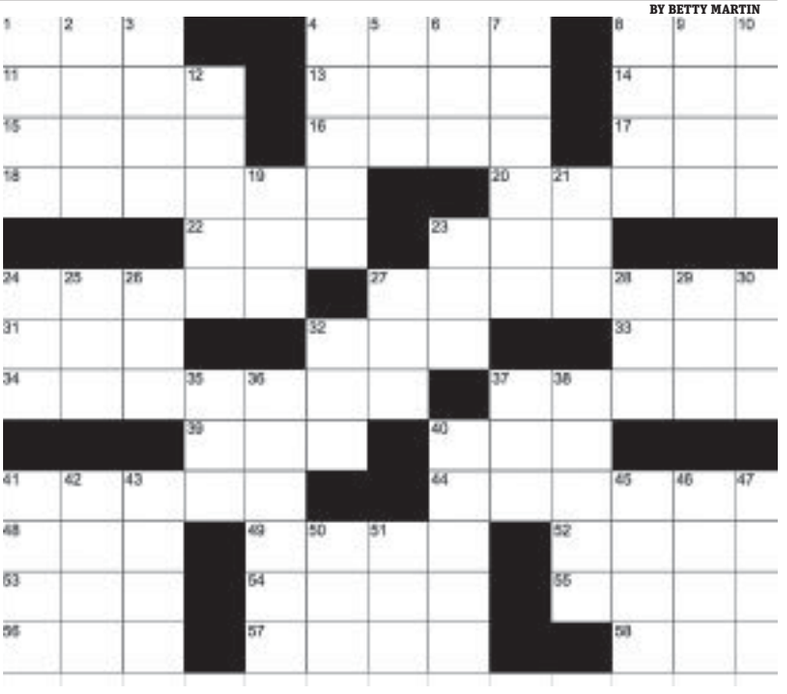
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You feel stronger than you have for a long time and that's good, but don't suddenly push yourself beyond your natural limits because your body may not be able to take it. You are allowed to rest you know.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your luck will change for the better today. Not that it was bad before but suddenly everything seems to be going your way again. What is it you desire most? Focus on it and soon it will be yours.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
It may seems as if your life is heading down a predestined course but that isn't strictly true. You can change your destiny any time you choose, but first you need to believe that it's possible. Start believing today. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

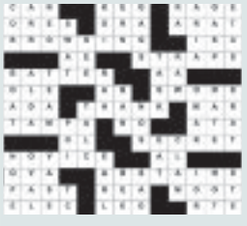
BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. – – snail's pace (2 words)
4. Halt
8. Calendar square
11. Clammy
13. Luau fare
14. Devoured
15. Solo
16. Sharif of "Funny Girl"
17. Heavy weight
18. Paper border
20. Mine transports
22. Summer on the Riviera
23. "Anna and the King" actress Ling
24. Not quite right
27. On the same family tree
31. Get into
32. Police dept. rank
33. Spanish gold
34. Playing field
37. Inclined
39. Air quality org.
40. Where the buoys are
41. Give a speech
44. Cell phone feature
48. Buddy
49. Close by
52. Baby buggy
53. St. crosser
54. Jazzy Fitzgerald
55. Sediment
56. Superman foe Luther
57. Regard
58. Old video game letters

Down
1. Role for David Canary on All My Children
2. "Gone with the Wind" plantation
3. Eastern title
4. "Romancing the —"
5. Tartan topper
6. Openings (anat.)
7. Grand entrance
8. Facts
9. Wee bit
10. Strong desires
12. Book contents
19. TGIF part
21. Inlet
23. Wager
24. Total up
25. Reply from Miss Piggy
26. – — funk (moody)
27. Lipstick colour
28. Also
29. Shore bird
30. Forest female
32. Genetic initials
35. How I — Your Mother
36. Started the bidding
37. Stew ingredient
38. Highway exits
40. "Get lost!"
41. October birthstone
42. Great review
43. Role for Michael J. Fox
45. Emerald Isle
46. Breathing sound
47. Qtys.
50. Letter after ka in Spanish
51. Bar order

Yesterday's Crossword



What's online

See today's answers metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

5					3			
4				5		3	9	
9		1			6			
7	2	8				1		
6								8
		4				6	3	7
			7			5		2
	1	7		2				3
			9					6

Yesterday's Sudoku

It's Better at Bennett

30 minute oil change; No appointment necessary.

522.6612 · bennettdunlopford.com
770 Broad Street, Regina

Ford Bennett Dunlop Ford
Driving Change